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*Governor*

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Of Career Education

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[ace.arkansas.gov](http://ace.arkansas.gov)

## News Release

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## Governor's Commission to award 27 scholarships

LITTLE ROCK – The Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities will present 27 college scholarships at a program and reception to be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 20, at the Governor's Mansion Grand Hall. Representatives of the media are invited to attend.

The Commission's scholarships are awarded annually to qualifying students with disabilities from across Arkansas who are pursuing post-secondary education. The \$1,000 stipends are funded through the Commission's 30 percent share of fines levied against people who illegally use parking spaces reserved for drivers with a disability.

A violation occurs when a car without official designation parks in an accessible space. It is also a violation for a person who is not disabled to park a vehicle with that designation in a space provided for that purpose.

"The number of fines has decreased in recent years," said Leonard Boyle, the Commission's executive director. "It's not that the violations have decreased, but the frequency with which violations are reported and ticketed has."

The master of ceremonies will be Lieutenant Johnny Gilbert, Jr., of the Little Rock Police Department and the keynote speaker will be Dr. Dan Bakke, President of Pulaski Technical College.

Those receiving scholarships, with their hometown and college choice:

- Jacqueline Bettis, Little Rock, University of Central Arkansas
- Anmol Bhatia, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- Holly Brewer, Jonesboro, Arkansas State University
- Mallory Burke, Little Rock, Pulaski Technical College

– more –

- Trilby Gibson, Pea Ridge, Austin College or Hendrix
- Shenita Gully, Jacksonville, Pulaski Technical College
- Hillary Hagarman, North Little Rock, University of Central Arkansas
- Megan Harrison, Lowell, Northwest Arkansas Community College
- Katelyn Haynes, Charleston, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
- Justin Hollingsworth, Warren, South Arkansas Community College
- Connor Howe, Helena, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- Karie Hudson, Sherwood, Pulaski Technical College
- Forrest Jones, Marion, University of Central Arkansas
- Jonathan Marks, Siloam Springs, John Brown University
- Jackson Matteri, Springdale, John Brown University
- Michael Melcher, Elkins, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- Hannah Montgomery, Bella Vista, Ouachita Baptist University
- Simeon Prather, Warren, Henderson State University
- David “Kyle” Robinson, Little Rock, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
- Laura Shaver, Hamburg, Arkansas State University at Beebe
- Laney Staggs, Mena, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
- Brandon Tabor, Russellville, Arkansas Tech University
- Zachary Traylor, Jacksonville, Arkansas State University at Jonesboro
- Lindsey Upshaw, Sheridan, Ouachita Baptist University
- Corey Warford, Clarksville, University of the Ozarks
- Whitney Watts, Benton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- Lacey West, Sherwood, University of Central Arkansas

“These students are among the very best and brightest that Arkansas has to offer and have not allowed their disability to stand in the way of their success,” said William L. “Bill” Walker, Jr., director of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, the agency that manages the commission.

“I am inspired each year by the students who receive the commission’s scholarships,” said Robert Treviño, commissioner of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, a division of the Department of Career Education.

“They excel not only in the classroom but in their communities as well.”

***The Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE) has the mission of providing leadership and contributing resources to serve the diverse and changing career educational needs of Arkansas youth, adults, and persons living with disabilities. Information about the department’s services is available at***

***<http://ace.arkansas.gov>***

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